



ADVENT at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Living and Learning through Faith



Here is an overview of how the children will be getting ready for Christmas and how families can support the preparations.

During the season of Advent, **classroom altars** will be decorated with purple cloth for the period of four Sundays and weeks before Christmas. Advent means '**coming**' in Latin.

This is the preparation for the coming of Jesus into the world. The altars are a focal points for prayer, worship and RE lessons, when children will explore the journey we take during the Advent season.



Jars of Hope

Think about the things that make you hopeful. Find an empty jar and decorate it as your Jar of Hope. Write down the things that you are missing doing at the moment and put them in the jar. This way you can look in your

Jar of Hope and celebrate and appreciate being able to do things again.



"All it takes is one good person to restore hope."

Pope Francis



Cafod Advent Calendar

[HTTPS://CAFOD.ORG.UK/EDUCATION/PRIMARY-TEACHING-RESOURCES/ADVENT-CALENDAR-FOR-CHILDREN](https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/advent-calendar-for-children)



On the morning of 6th December, years 4, 5 and 6 will be gathered together for

Advent Reconciliation.

The children and staff will have the opportunity to reconcile and reflect





Christmas Productions
Our Reception class will be performing "The Nativity" this year.

Our KS1 Nativity is "Born in a Barn"



Our KS2 Nativity is "Bethlehem the Musical"



Thank you to all the parents for their support when providing costumes.



Christmas Ensemble is on Friday 20th December at 9am in St Mary's Church.

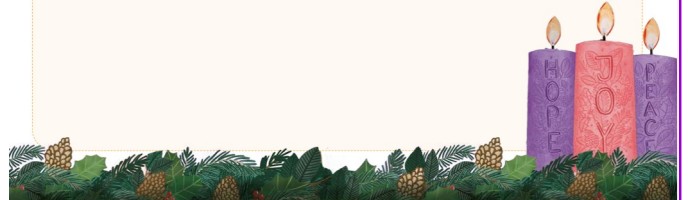
Advent Pledge

We would like to encourage all children to complete an advent pledge sheet to share how you will show love this Christmas.

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Pledge Sheet

How will you help others and share the light of Jesus this Christmas?



KS1 Advent Service

This will be held in the school hall at 9am on 4th December.



Posada

This year, we are introducing the Travelling Nativity to the families of St Mary's. Families will be invited to host the Nativity set for an evening and then bring them back to school so we can pass them on to another family.



Christmas Lunch

10th December

If they wish, children can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper with their school uniform.



Five Prayer Cards for the Season of Advent



Christmas Day	Fourth Sunday Advent	Third Sunday Advent	Second Sunday Advent	First Sunday Advent
Christ / Христос	Peace / Мир	Joy / Радість	Love / Любов	Hope / Надія
<p>We sing a new song of praise as we rejoice at the birth of Christ our Saviour.</p> <p>Welcome, Lord, light of the world.</p> <p>Help us to shine a light on all that is unjust and bring about a brighter future.</p> <p>Welcome, Lord, light of the world.</p> <p>Lead us in your ways as together we make a change and share the warmth of your love with all.</p> <p>Welcome, Lord, light of the world.</p>	<p>We listen to your word as it whispers in our hearts: "Do not be afraid."</p> <p>Come, Lord, prince of peace.</p> <p>Be with all who suffer because of conflict and violence and strengthen those who seek peace.</p> <p>Come, Lord, prince of peace.</p> <p>Lead us in your ways, as together we make a change and share your peace with all.</p> <p>Come, Lord, prince of peace.</p>	<p>In times of despair, we seek comfort in your presence.</p> <p>We wait in hope for you.</p> <p>Come, Lord, source of joy.</p> <p>Move us to be good news in our world and to stand alongside our sisters and brothers in need.</p> <p>Come, Lord, source of joy.</p> <p>Lead us in your ways as together we make a change so all people may rejoice and be glad.</p> <p>Come, Lord, source of joy.</p>	<p>We repent and are sorry for the damage we have caused to our earth and one another.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bearer of love.</p> <p>Guide us as we seek to straighten the paths of injustice and prepare a way for you.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bearer of love.</p> <p>Lead us in your ways, as together we make a change and reach out in love to others.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bearer of love.</p>	<p>We stay awake, watch and wait, for we do not know the hour or the day of your arrival.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bringer of hope.</p> <p>Create in us a desire for a world transformed to reflect your glory.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bringer of hope.</p> <p>Lead us in your ways, as together we make a change, to dispel the darkness of poverty.</p> <p>Come, Lord, bringer of hope.</p>
Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.	Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.	Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.	Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.	Headings given in Ukrainian as well as English.
CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development	CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development	CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development	CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development	CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Upcoming Dates

KS1 Advent Service	4th December 9am
Christmas Fair	7th December 11am-2pm
Reception Nativity	11th December 9am
KS1 Nativity	12th December 9am
KS2 Nativity	18th December at 2pm
	19th December at 9am
Christmas Ensemble	20th December at 9am

Autumn Term 2024

Wednesday 4th September – Friday 20th December

Spring Term 2025

Tuesday 7th January – Friday 4th April

Half Term: 17th February – 21st February

Staff Training Day: 6th January

Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 23rd April – Tuesday 22nd July

Bank Holiday: 5th May

Half Term: 26th May – 30th May

Staff Training Day: 22nd April

Mission Together Advent Calendar 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1st Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Today's scripture from the Prophet Jeremiah tells of God's promised Saviour. Read the scripture to find out what the Saviour will do?+ <i>Jeremiah 33:14-16</i></p> <p>1</p> 	<p>The Advent wreath's candles are a symbol of Christ's light. Think of ways you can be a light for others today.*</p> <p>2</p> 	<p>The Advent wreath's evergreen leaves, remind us of God's unending love. Today, notice the beauty of evergreen trees and thank God for them.</p> <p>3</p> 	<p>Learn our Advent Carol <i>We are Waiting*</i> and sing it as a class. Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK</p> <p>4</p> 	<p>GLOBAL FAMILY FACT: During Advent in the Philippines people decorate homes with paper lanterns called Paroles, as a reminder to look out for Jesus.*</p> <p>5</p> 	<p>Today is the feast of St Nicholas. Find out what St Nicholas did to bring hope to people living in poverty.*</p> <p>6</p> 	<p>Write an Advent prayer or poem. Try to include the words: <i>hope, wait, light, God, Jesus.</i></p> <p>7</p> 
<p>2nd Sunday of Advent</p> <p>In today's scripture, we learn about John the Baptist. What did he ask people to do?+ <i>Luke 3:1-6</i></p> <p>8</p> 	<p>One way we can prepare for Jesus is by building peace. Make a peace paper-chain and think about how you can build peace in school this week.*</p> <p>9</p> 	<p>Say the Mission Together Prayer for children living in war zones. May all children in the world, share love, share friendship and live in the peace of God's love. Now and forever. Amen.</p> <p>10</p> 	<p>As a class, sing <i>Silent Night*</i>. Listen carefully to the words and think about what they mean.</p> <p>11</p> 	<p>Make peace today. Say sorry to someone you may have upset this week. Or forgive someone who has upset you.</p> <p>12</p> 	<p>GLOBAL FAMILY FACT: Today is the Feast of St Lucy, in Denmark, children will take part in candle lit processions to remember how Jesus' light wins over darkness.*</p> <p>13</p> 	<p>Find somewhere peaceful to sit and thank God for the people who love and care for you.</p> <p>14</p> 
<p>3rd Sunday of Advent</p> <p>In today's scripture the Prophet Zephaniah speaks of the joy that God gives. Who are the people who bring you joy. Thank God for them.+ <i>Zephaniah 3:14-18</i></p> <p>15</p> 	<p>Yesterday was Gaudete Sunday. A pink candle was lit on the Advent Wreath. Find out what Gaudete means.</p> <p>16</p> 	<p>GLOBAL FAMILY FACT: Before Christmas in Mauke, an island in Oceania, the people share the joy of Jesus' birth by giving food hampers to strangers.*</p> <p>17</p> 	<p>Make a Joyful Paper Angel and think about how you can share the joy of Jesus today.*</p> <p>18</p> 	<p>Joy is easy to pass on! Look out for people who are lonely today and invite them to play.</p> <p>19</p> 	<p>As a class sing <i>Joy to the World.*</i> Why not film your singing and share it with us @MissioUK</p> <p>20</p> 	<p>Say a prayer for all children who are upset, sad, or lonely. Ask God to help you share his joy with them.</p> <p>21</p> 
<p>4th Sunday of Advent</p> <p>In today's scripture from the Gospel of Luke we learn about an extraordinary thing that happened when Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth. Why do you think Elizabeth's baby jumped with joy?+ <i>Luke 1:39-45</i></p> <p>22</p> 	<p>Around the world billions of people are getting ready for the birth of Jesus. Jesus was born to show God's love for all his children; wherever they live in the world. Today, say the <i>Lord's Prayer</i> for everyone in our global family who needs God's help today</p> <p>23</p> 	<p>GLOBAL FAMILY FACT: Today, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, children gather to take part in a special nativity play. Everyone in the community gets involved. Is there someone you could you tell the Christmas story to? Maybe you could act it out with a nativity set?</p> <p>24</p> 	<p>Rejoice! Jesus is born! Remember to thank God and your family for all the gifts and their love brings.</p> <p>25</p> 			



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